

*Am*



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/706,181	11/03/2000	Theron Tock	DANAP001	5562

44987 7590 03/03/2005  
HARRITY & SNYDER, LLP  
11240 WAPLES MILL ROAD  
SUITE 300  
FAIRFAX, VA 22030

EXAMINER

LAZARO, DAVID R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/706,181	TOCK ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	David Lazaro	2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-11 and 15-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-11 and 15-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/19/05</u>   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the RCE (12/16/04) and Supplemental Amendment received 1/19/05.
2. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15 and 18 were amended.
3. Claims 5 and 12-14 were canceled.
4. Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 15-27 are pending in this Office Action.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-4, 18-24 and 27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over "Intermediaries: new places for producing and manipulating Web content" by Barrett and Magilo (hereinafter Barrett) in view of "How to Personalize the Web" by Barrett, Magilo and Kellem (hereinafter BMK).
7. Note: Barrett was originally provided through an IDS submitted by Applicants. BMK was previously cited in the Final Office Action mailed 08/16/04.
8. With respect to Claim 1, Barrett teaches an information retrieval system that serves to retrieve information requested by a client machine from a remote server via a network, the client machine operating a network browser (Page 510, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph

"Intermediaries..."), said system comprising: an intermediate server coupled to a network (Page 514-515, Section 4.1 "Configurations"), said intermediate server receives requests destined for a remote server (Page 511 Fig. 2) and performs processing on responses to the requests from the remote server before returning the responses to a client machine (Page 512, Sections 3.1 and 3.2); at least one third-party application plug-in installed on the intermediate server (Page 512 Section 3 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraphs and Page 513, Last paragraph of Section 3.2 "WBI operation"), the third-party application plug-in to filter the response to render at least one feature available at the client machine without counterpart plug-ins at the client machine (Page 510, "Web Personalization" and "Content Distillation" paragraphs, and Pages 512-513 Section 3.2 "WBI operation", and Table 1 on page 513); and a history manager operable on the intermediate server, the history manager storing results of historical requests from the client machine (Page 509 - implementation of personal history noted in 'Abstract', Page 510 - 'Web Personalization', and Page 515 - first paragraph on the page). Barrett does not explicitly disclose the history manager provides results of historical requests to the client machine in response to a view history request from the client machine. BMK teaches the use of a history manager that is built using the same technology presented in Barrett (See Page 79 - 'Simple Agents Solve Common Problems' in BMK. Note also that Barrett makes reference to the BMK article on Page 510 - 'Web Personalization'). The history manager in BMK is capable of providing results of historical requests, which are stored in the history manager, in response to a view history request from the client machine (Page 79 - 'Personal History' of BMK). It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the system disclosed by Barrett and modify it as indicated by BMK such that the system further comprises a history manager operable on the intermediate server, the history manager storing results of historical requests from the client machine and providing the results of the historical requests to the client machine in response to a view history request from the client machine. One would be motivated to have this, as there is need for solving common problems users experience with information retrieval, such as being able to find historical requests (Page 79 - 'Simple Agents Solve Common Problems' and 'Personal History', in BMK).

9. With respect to Claim 2, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches said third-party application plug-in operates at said intermediate server to process the responses to the requests from the remote server before returning the responses to the client machine (Page 512, Sections 3.1 and 3.2 of Barrett).

10. With respect to Claim 3, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches said third-party application plug-in operates at said intermediate server to pass the responses to the requests from the remote server through a application filter provided by said third-party application plug-in before returning the responses to the client machine (Page 512, Section 3 of Barrett).

11. With respect to Claim 4, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches said information retrieval system further comprises: an application plug in framework that facilitates incorporating at least one third-party

application plug-in within the intermediate server (Page 512 Section 3, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraphs and Page 513, Last paragraph of section 3.2 "WBI operation" of Barrett); a data storage device operatively connected or within said intermediate server (Page 513 Fig. 4 of Barrett); and a cookie manager operable on said intermediate server (Page 513, Section 3.3.1 "Cookie Manager" of Barrett), said cookie manager operates to manage centralized storage of cookies in said data storage device with respect to the client machine and the remote server (Page 513 Fig. 4 of Barrett), wherein cookies from the remote server provided with a response are stored in said data storage device by said cookie manager instead of at the client machine (Page 513 Fig. 4 of Barrett), and wherein said cookie manager retrieves previously stored cookies from said data storage device that are associated with the remote server and the client machine (Page 513 Fig. 4 of Barrett), and provides the retrieved previously stored cookies to the remote server with the request (Page 513 Fig. 4 of Barrett).

12. With respect to Claim 18, Barrett teaches a computer readable medium including at least computer program code for processing resource requests received at an intermediary server via a network (Page 510, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph "Intermediaries..."), said computer readable medium comprising: computer code for receiving, at an intermediary server, a resource request from a requestor, the resource request requesting a particular resource (Page 511, Fig. 2); computer code for determining a hostname for a remote server hosting the particular resource being requested (Page 512 Section 3.2 "WBI operation", specifically end of 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph); computer code for sending a request for the particular resource to the remote server based on the determined hostname

Art Unit: 2155

(Page 512 Section 3.2 "WBI operation", specifically steps 1 and 2); computer code for receiving, at the intermediary server, a response to the request from the remote server; computer program code for modifying the response including processing the response through at least one third-party application plug-in to filter the response to render at least one feature available at the client machine without counterpart plug-ins at the client machine (Page 510, "Web Personalization" and "Content Distillation" paragraphs, and Pages 512-513 Section 3.2 "WBI operation", and Table 1 on page 513); and computer program code for sending a modified response to the requestor (Page 512-513 Section 3.2 "WBI operation"). Barrett does not explicitly disclose computer program code for providing the requestor with a history of responses to resource requests pursuant to a history request received from the requestor. BMK teaches the use of a history manager built using the same technology presented in Barrett (See Page 79 - 'Simple Agents Solve Common Problems' in BMK. Note also that Barrett makes reference to the BMK article on Page 510 - 'Web Personalization'). The history manager in BMK is capable of providing the requestor with a history of responses to resource requests pursuant to a view history request received from the requestor (Page 79 - 'Personal History' of BMK). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the computer readable medium disclosed by Barrett and modify it as indicated by BMK such that the computer readable medium further comprises computer program code for providing the requestor with a history of responses to resource requests pursuant to a view history request received from the requestor. One would be motivated to have this, as there is need for solving

common problems users experience with information retrieval, such as being able to find historical requests (Page 79 - 'Simple Agents Solve Common Problems' and 'Personal History', in BMK).

13. With respect to Claim 19, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 18 and further teaches said computer readable medium further comprises: computer program code for centrally saving the modified response such that the modified response is able to be subsequently recalled by the requestor (Page 509, abstract, Page 510, "Web personalization" and "Document caching" paragraphs and Page 515, 1st Paragraph, of Barrett).

14. With respect to Claim 20, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 18 and further teaches the response from the remote server comprises HTML data (Page 513, Table 1, "Document Editor" of Barrett).

15. With respect to Claim 21, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches a third party application plug-in of the at least one third-party application plug-in is operable to remove data from the response (Page 513-514, Section 3.3.1 of Barrett)

16. With respect to Claim 22, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches wherein the intermediate server receives request from a plurality of client networks (Page 510, Introduction, and Page 512-513, Section 3.2 of Barrett).

17. With respect to Claim 23, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches wherein the intermediate server returns responses a



Art Unit: 2155

plurality of client networks (Page 510, Introduction, and Page 512-513, Section 3.2 of Barrett).

18. With respect to Claim 24, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 1 and further teaches wherein the application plug-in framework includes a plurality of third-party application plug-ins operable to filter the response in series (Page 512-513, Section 3.2, and Page 514, Section 3.3.2, and Fig. 5 of Barrett).

19. With respect to Claim 27, Barrett in view of BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 18 and further teaches wherein the response is processed in series through a plurality of third-party application plug-ins (Page 512-513, Section 3.2, and Page 514, Section 3.3.2, and Fig. 5 of Barrett).

20. Claims 6-11, 15-17, and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barrett in view of U.S. Patent 5,752,022 by Chiu et al. (Chiu) and BMK.

21. With respect to Claim 6, Barrett teaches an intermediary server system (Page 514-515, Section 4.1 Configurations), comprising: a web server that receives requests for resources from client machines (Page 510, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph "Intermediaries..."), a HTTP handler operatively connected to said web server, said HTTP handler receives the requests for resources, modifies the requests (Page 513 Table 1 "Request Editor") to be directed to appropriate remote servers via the network, and forwards the modified requests for resources to the appropriate remote servers (Page 514 Section 4, 1<sup>st</sup>

Paragraph); a HTML parser operatively connected to said HTTP handler, said HTML parser receives the resources supplied by the appropriate remote servers in response to the modified requests (Page 513 Table 1 "Document Editor"); and a history manager storing resources previously requested by the client machine (Page 509 - implementation of personal history noted in 'Abstract' , Page 510 - 'Web Personalization', and Page 515 - first paragraph on the page). Barrett does not explicitly disclose modifying the resources such that certain links are modified to be directed to the intermediary server system. Barrett also does not explicitly disclose the history manager providing the previously requested resources in response to a view history request received from the client machine. Chiu teaches one can modify received resources such that certain links contained therein can be modified to be directed to the intermediary server system (Col. 3 lines 11-25 of Chiu). This allows a system to modify a resource for additional linking information or functions other than those originally provided (Col. 2 lines 35-60 of Chiu). BMK teaches the use of a history manager as part of a solution to help users re-find resources they have found before. The history manager is built using the same technology presented in Barrett (See Page 79 - 'Simple Agents Solve Common Problems' in BMK. Note also that Barrett makes reference to the BMK article on Page 510 - 'Web Personalization'). The history manager in BMK is capable of providing resources that were previously requested in response to a view history request received from the client machine (Page 79 - 'Personal History' of BMK). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the system disclosed by Barrett and modify it

as indicated by Chiu and BMK such that the system further comprises a HTML parser operatively connected to said HTTP handler, said HTML parser receives the resources supplied by the appropriate remote servers in response to the modified requests, and modifies the resources such that at least certain links contained therein are modified to be directed to an intermediary server system instead of remote server; and a history manager to provide resources that were previously requested by the client machine in response to a view history request received from the client machine. One would be motivated to have this, as there is need for customizing and extending information retrieval to provide users a more flexible and personalized experience (In Barrett, Page 510, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph - "Intermediaries represent...", and Page 511, 1<sup>st</sup> and Last paragraphs on page).

22. With respect to Claim 7, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 6 and further teaches said intermediary server system further comprises: a session manager that manages sessions between the client machines or their users and said intermediary server system (Page 513-514, Section 3.3.1, and Fig. 4, Page 515, 1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph, Page 510 "Web personalization" paragraph, of Barrett); a server information manager that manages remote server supplied identification or state information provided to said intermediary server system by remote servers (Page 513, Section 3.3.1 Cookie Manager of Barrett); and a data store for storage of session management data provided by said session manager and remote server supplied identification or state information provided by said server information manager (Page 513, Section 3.3.1 Cookie Manager of Barrett).

23. With respect to Claim 8, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 7 and further teaches the remote server supplied identification or the state information provided by said server information manager comprises cookies (Page 513, Section 3.3.1 "Cookie Manager" of Barrett).

24. With respect to Claim 9, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 6 and further teaches the history manager uniquely stores each of the previously requested resources identified by one or more of a URL, a host name, a path, a timestamp, and a file reference (Page 79, 'Personal History' of BMK).

25. With respect to Claim 10, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 6 and further teaches said intermediary server system further comprises: an application plug-in framework that facilitates incorporating at least one application plug-in within said intermediary server system so as to provide additional functionality (Page 512 Section 3, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraphs and Page 513, Last paragraph of section 3.2 "WBI operation", of Barrett).

26. With respect to Claim 11, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 9 and further teaches the history manager provides search service of the previously requested resources to the client machine (Page 78, 'Personal History' of BMK).

27. With respect to Claim 15, Barrett teaches a method for processing a resource requested received at an intermediary server via a network (Page 510, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph "Intermediaries..."), said method comprising the acts of: (a) receiving, at an intermediary server, a resource request from a requestor (Page 511, Fig. 2); (b) determining an

address for a remote server hosting the requested resource (Page 512 Section 3.2 "WBI operation", specifically end of 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph); (c) retrieving at least one cookie associated with the remote server from a central storage associated with the intermediary server (Page 513, Fig. 4 and Section 3.3.1 "Cookie Manager"); (d) sending a request for the requested resource with the retrieved cookie to the remote server (Page 513, Fig. 4); (e) receiving, at the intermediary server, a response to the request from the remote server (Page 513, Fig. 4); (f) storing any cookies provided with the received response in the central storage such that the cookies are associated with the remote server (Page 513, Fig. 4); and modifying a response and sending the modified response to the requestor (Page 512-513 Section 3.2 "WBI operation").. Barrett does not explicitly disclose modifying the response so that links within the response point to the intermediate server. Barrett also does not explicitly disclose providing the requestor with a history of responses to resource requests pursuant to a view history request received from the requestor. Chiu teaches one can modify received resources such that certain links contained therein can be modified to be directed to the intermediary server system (Col. 3 lines 11-25 of Chiu). This allows a system to modify a resource for additional linking information or functions other than those originally provided (Col. 2 lines 35-60 of Chiu). BMK teaches the use of a history manager as part of a solution to help requestors re-find resources they have found before. The history manager is built using the same technology presented in Barrett (See Page 79 - 'Simple Agents Solve Common Problems' in BMK. Note also that Barrett makes reference to the BMK article on Page 510 - 'Web Personalization'). The history manager in BMK is capable of

providing the requestor with a history of responses to resource requests pursuant to a view history request received from the requestor (Page 79 - 'Personal History' of BMK). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the method disclosed by Barrett and modify it as indicated by Chiu and BMK such that the method further comprises (g) modify the response so that links within the response point to the intermediate server; (h) sending the modified response to the requestor; and (i) providing the requestor with a history of responses to resource requests pursuant to a view history request received from the requestor. One would be motivated to have this, as there is need for customizing and extending information retrieval to provide users a more flexible and personalized experience (In Barrett, Page 510, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph - "Intermediaries represent...", and Page 511, 1<sup>st</sup> and Last paragraphs on page).

28. With respect to Claim 16, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 15 and further teaches said method further comprises the acts of:(j) saving the modified response to the central storage such that the modified response is associated with the requestor (Page 509, abstract, Page 510, "Web personalization" and "Document caching" paragraphs, and Page 515, 1st Paragraph, of Barrett).

29. With respect to Claim 17, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 15 and further teaches the resource request is a HTTP (Page 514 Section 4, 1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph of Barrett) request including at least a URL having an initial hostname for the particular resource (Page 512 Section 3.2 "WBI operation", specifically end of 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph of Barrett).

Art Unit: 2155

30. With respect to Claim 25, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 6 and further teaches wherein the web server receives request from client machines located on a plurality of client networks (Page 510, Introduction, and Page 512-513, Section 3.2, of Barrett).

31. With respect to Claim 26, Barrett in view of Chiu and BMK teaches all the limitations of Claim 6 and further teaches wherein the modified resources are returned to client machines located on a plurality of client networks (Page 510, Introduction, and Page 512-513, Section 3.2 of Barrett).

### ***Conclusion***

32. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

33. U.S. Patent 6,505,230 by Mohan et al. "Client-Server Independent intermediary Mechanism" January 7, 2003. Discloses an Intermediary system that includes a history manager.

34. Barrett and Magilio "Intermediaries: An approach to manipulating information streams" IBM Systems Journal, 1999, Vol. 38, No. 4, pp. 629-641. Is basically an update to cited Barrett reference. Discloses more information on current state of the art.

35. Thompson et al. "Intermediary Architecture: Interposing Middleware Object Services between Web Client and Server" ACM, June 1999, ACM Computing Surveys, Vol. 31, Issue 2es. Discloses the use of intermediaries to provide many information


Art Unit: 2155

retrieval services including tracking and indexing of visited URLs and server plug-in functionality.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Lazaro whose telephone number is 571-272-3986. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
David Lazaro  
February 28, 2005

  
HOSAIN ALAM  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER